

Application number 10/798,597
Amendment dated April 3, 2007
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2819

PATENT

Amendment(s) to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Fig. 6. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 6. A new drawing, Figure 6B, is also included.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 8-15, 19, 21, and 23-34 will remain pending in this application. Claims 25, 27, 28, 31, and 34 have been amended. Claims 29 and 30 have been amended for consistency. Support for the amended claims can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 25-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano et al., United States patent number 4,719,369. (Asano.) Claims 31, 32, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vishwanthaiah et al., United States patent number 5,955,894. (Vishwanthaiah.) Reconsideration of these rejections and allowance of the pending claims in light of these amendments and remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 8-15, 19, 21, 23, and 24 have been allowed.

Claim 25

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano. But Asano does not teach each and every element of this claim. For example, claim 25, as amended, recites “an encoder coupled to receive the one less than two to the power of N outputs from the analog-to-digital converter and provide N outputs.” Asano does not provide this feature.

The pending office action cites Figures 1 and 2 of Asano as teaching each and every element of this claim. (See pending office action, page 3, line 7.) But these figures do not teach an encoder coupled to receive the one less than two to the power of N outputs from the analog-to-digital converter and provide N outputs, as required by the claim.

For at least these reasons, claim 25 should be allowed.

Claim 31

Claim 31 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vishwanthaiah. But Vishwanthaiah does not teach each and every element of this claim. For example, claim 31, as amended, recites “a first bit-shifter circuit...wherein the first plurality of control signals can be right shifted, left shifted, or not shifted before being provided to the first

on-chip termination impedance circuit;...and a second bit-shifter circuit...wherein the first plurality of control signals can be right shifted, left shifted, or not shifted before being provided to the second on-chip termination impedance circuit. Vishwanthaiah does not provide this feature.

The pending office action cites Figure 1-5 of Vishwanthaiah as teaching each and every element of this claim. (See pending office action, page 4, fifth paragraph.) But these figures do not teach a second bit shifter circuit that can shift the first plurality of control signals as required by the claim.

Figure 1 of Vishwanthaiah teaches a number of circuits 102, each having an impedance control circuit 112 coupled to a number of input and output circuits 110. (See Vishwanthaiah, Figure 1.) Figure 4 of Vishwanthaiah teaches that each impedance control circuit includes one shift circuit 406. (See Vishwanthaiah, Figure 4.) This shift circuit provides control signals for each input and output circuit 110. (See Vishwanthaiah, Figure 1.) There is no second bit shifter circuit that can also shift the control signals. Accordingly, Vishwanthaiah does not teach a second bit-shifter circuit...wherein the first plurality of control signals can be right shifted, left shifted, or not shifted, as is required by the claim.

For at least these reasons, claim 31 should be allowed.

Other claims

The other rejected claims depend on one of the above claims and should be allowed for at least the same reasons, and for the additional limitations they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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